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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia

Letter dated 4 March 2004 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

On the instruction of my Government, I have the honour to convey herewith a list of actions taken by the Government of Sierra Leone for the effective implementation of relevant measures contained in resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia (see annex).

(*Signed*) Sylvester Ekundayo **Rowe**
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative (Political Affairs)

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Annex to the letter dated 4 March 2004 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

Actions taken by the Government of Sierra Leone to implement Security Council resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia

4 March 2004

1. Since the adoption of resolution 1521 (2003), and consistent with its commitment to scrupulously implement the ECOWAS Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons, the Government of Sierra Leone has tightened surveillance within its existing security and other monitoring mechanisms to ensure that arms and related materiel are not transferred from or through the territory of Sierra Leone to Liberia. In this regard, the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces, in cooperation with the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, are actively engaged in preventing cross-border flows of arms and armed elements.

2. The stipulation contained in paragraph 4 (a) of resolution 1521 (2003) has been brought to the attention of all the relevant ministries, departments and agencies of Government. All security, immigration and administrative personnel at airports, airfields and border posts throughout the territory of Sierra Leone have been instructed to be vigilant and to take appropriate action in preventing the entry into and transit through the territory of Sierra Leone of individuals who, inter alia, are engaged in activities aimed at undermining peace and stability in Liberia and the Mano River subregion.

3. In this regard, it is in the national security interest of Sierra Leone to maintain the highest level of vigilance. Consultations are under way concerning the status of the 340 Liberian ex-combatants in the Mape Internment Camp, who had voluntarily entered and sought protection in the territory of Sierra Leone during the conflict in Liberia. The attention of immigration, security and administrative personnel has also been drawn to the continued validity of the list of travel restrictions imposed by the Security Council on certain individuals pursuant to its resolution 1343 (2001).

4. In the context of the implementation by all States and entities of the 2001 certificate of origin for Sierra Leone rough diamonds, the Government of Sierra Leone has procedures and measures already in place to prevent the direct or indirect import of rough diamonds from Liberia. It is a faithful participant in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme and fully endorses action for the establishment and implementation of an effective and credible certificate-of-origin scheme for rough diamonds produced in Liberia.

5. Sierra Leone does not import round logs and timber products from Liberia. However, in compliance with the stipulation in paragraph 10 of resolution 1521 (2003), it has instructed all relevant State, district and local authorities, particularly those in the Eastern and Southern Provinces, to be vigilant, and ensure that ports, ferries and border posts in the territory of Sierra Leone are not used for the storage, exportation, transfer or transit of such products originating from Liberia.